

GRAPEVINE WORKSHOP

DISTRICT 40 – NOVEMBER 28, 2020 9:00AM – 10:30AM



INTRODUCTION

- **INTRODUCTION BY SUSAN H – NIA 20**
- **WELCOME TO OUR GRAPEVINE WORKSHOP**
- **HOSTED BY DISTRICT 40 GV CHAIR TERRY M AND GV CO-CHAIR SANDY C**
- **QUIET TIME FOLLOWED BY SERENITY PRAYER**
- **AA PREAMBLE - VOLUNTEER**
- **GV – ANNOUNCE FABULOUS GIFT SUBSCRIPTION FOR NEWCOMER & FIRST 30 DAYS**

WHAT IS GRAPEVINE HISTORY

- **MEETING IN PRINT – SINCE 1944 , ADVISORY BOARD OF GV HOW IT WORKS**
- **THE GRAPEVINE WAS CREATED BY SIX AA MEMBERS IN THE NEW YORK AREA — FOUR WOMEN AND TWO MEN. WITH THE BLESSINGS OF AA'S CO-FOUNDER BILL W., THEY PUBLISHED THE FIRST ISSUE IN JUNE 1944, JUST NINE YEARS AFTER THE FOUNDING OF AA. A COPY OF THAT FIRST ISSUE WAS SENT TO EVERY AA GROUP — ABOUT 300 AT THE TIME — AND TO ALL KNOWN AA MEMBERS IN THE ARMED SERVICES OVERSEAS. AN ENTIRE PAGE WITH THE HEADING, "MAIL CALL FOR ALL AAS IN THE ARMED FORCES," WAS DEVOTED TO LETTERS FROM THESE MEMBERS, WHO BEGAN CALLING THE GRAPEVINE THEIR "MEETING IN PRINT." THE TITLE STUCK, AND TODAY THE GRAPEVINE AND LA VIÑA CARRY IT ON THEIR COVERS.**
- **AT THE HEART OF THE EARLY GRAPEVINES, THEN AS NOW, WERE FIRST-PERSON STORIES. THERE WERE ALSO NEWS AND NOTES ON CURRENT HAPPENINGS AT THE CENTRAL OFFICE, PLUS REPORTS OF THE EXPLOSION OF NEW GROUPS IN NORTH AMERICA AND AROUND THE WORLD. IN ADDITION TO AA NEWS, THERE WERE BOOK REVIEWS AND MAGAZINE REPRINTS AND PIECES WRITTEN BY NONAAS, INCLUDING SOME WELL-KNOWN LITERARY FIGURES (WHO REMAIN ANONYMOUS), DISCUSSED WERE SUCH BURNING TOPICS OF THE DAY AS THE PLACE OF WOMEN IN AA, RETURNING VETERANS, AND CROSS-ADDICTION.**
- **BY THE FOURTH ISSUE, THE MAGAZINE BEGAN PRINTING THIS DESCRIPTION OF ITSELF UNDER THE MASTHEAD:**
- ***A MONTHLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THOSE SEEKING FURTHER KNOWLEDGE ON THE PROBLEM OF ALCOHOLISM, IN THE HOPE THAT IT MAY PROVE A UNIFYING BOND TO ALL ALCOHOLICS EVERYWHERE. INDIVIDUAL OPINIONS EXPRESSED HERE ARE NOT, NECESSARILY, THOSE OF AA AS A WHOLE.***
- **THE GRAPEVINE WAS IN FACT APPEALING TO "ALCOHOLICS EVERYWHERE" AND IN 1945, AT THE REQUEST OF THE GROUPS, IT BECAME THE NATIONAL JOURNAL OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS. FOUR YEARS LATER, WHEN THE GRAPEVINE'S READERSHIP HAD EXPANDED TO INCLUDE MEMBERS IN CANADA AND EUROPE, THE DESIGNATION WAS CHANGED TO THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS.**
- **LATER ISSUES OF THE GRAPEVINE REPORTED ON IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE GROWTH OF THE FELLOWSHIP, WORLDWIDE, SUCH AS THE BIRTH OF THE GENERAL SERVICE STRUCTURE, WORLD SERVICE MEETINGS, AND THE PUBLICATION OF THE THIRD AND FOURTH EDITIONS OF THE BIG BOOK. THE HISTORY OF THE GRAPEVINE IS THE HISTORY OF THE GROWTH OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS. IN 1986, THE GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE REAFFIRMED THE MAGAZINE'S PLACE IN AA WITH AN ADVISORY ACTION THAT RECOGNIZED IT AS THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS.**

WHAT IS GRAPEVINE HISTORY

- **LA VINA MEETING IN PRINT – SINCE 1995**
- **THE SPANISH-SPEAKING A.A. FELLOWSHIP IN THE U.S. AND CANADA AND IN OTHER SPANISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES HAS GROWN PHENOMENALLY IN THE LAST DECADES. WHILE SEVERAL LOCAL BULLETINS AND MAGAZINES — SOME OF THEM MODELED AFTER THE GRAPEVINE — HAVE APPEARED IN SPANISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES OVER THE YEARS, THESE ARE USUALLY GEARED AT THEIR NATIONAL COMMUNITY AND HAVE LIMITED DISTRIBUTION ELSEWHERE. ALSO, MANY SPANISH-SPEAKING MEMBERS OF A.A. HAD WANTED FOR SOME TIME TO BE ABLE TO READ AND SUBMIT ARTICLES TO THE GRAPEVINE IN THEIR OWN LANGUAGE. THIS EXPRESSED NEED WAS TAKEN TO THE GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE IN 1991 AND A RECOMMENDATION WAS ISSUED THAT THE GRAPEVINE BEGIN PUBLISHING AT LEAST ONE ARTICLE IN SPANISH EVERY MONTH. THESE ARTICLES APPEARED REGULARLY BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 1991 UNTIL JUNE 1996.**
- **IN 1995, THE GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE ADDRESSED THE EXPRESSED NEED WITHIN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA FOR A SPANISH-LANGUAGE EDITION OF THE GRAPEVINE AND GAVE ITS APPROVAL TO THE IDEA. IN JULY 1995, A SPECIAL EDITION OF THE GRAPEVINE IN SPANISH WAS PRODUCED, CONTAINING ARTICLES WHICH HAD ALREADY APPEARED IN ENGLISH MAGAZINE. AFTER PRESENTATION OF A BUSINESS PLAN FOR THE NEW MAGAZINE TO THE TRUSTEES' FINANCE COMMITTEE (WHICH WAS APPROVED), THE GRAPEVINE BEGAN PREPARATIONS FOR LA VIÑA, PLANNED AS A BIMONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR SPANISH-SPEAKING MEMBERS OF A.A. THE FIRST ISSUE CAME OFF THE PRESS IN JUNE OF 1996 AND COPIES WERE DISTRIBUTED TO SUBSCRIBERS IN THE UNITED STATES, CANADA, MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, THE CARIBBEAN AND EUROPE.**
- **ORIGINALLY THE CONFERENCE VOTED FOR THE PRODUCTION OF LA VIÑA AS A FIVE-YEAR EXPERIMENT, BUT IN 2001, THE GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE RECOMMENDED THAT LA VIÑA CONTINUE TO BE PUBLISHED BY THE A.A. GRAPEVINE AND SUPPORTED BY THE GENERAL SERVICE BOARD AS A SERVICE TO THE FELLOWSHIP. THE PRINT RUN IS CURRENTLY AT 15,000 MAGAZINES. THE NUMBER OF SUBSCRIBERS HAS GROWN SLOWLY BUT STEADILY EVERY YEAR AND IS CURRENTLY OVER 9,000.**

WHAT IS GRAPEVINE HISTORY

- **AA PREAMBLE – INNER COVER OF GV MAGAZINE AND COPY RIGHTED BY GV - USED FOR MEETINGS ALL OVER THE WORLD, IT WAS WRITTEN BY AN EDITOR OF GRAPEVINE AND FIRST APPEARED IN THE JUNE 1947 ISSUE FOR THE PURPOSES OF DESCRIBING TO NON ALCOHOLS WHAT AA IS AND WHAT IT IS NOT.**
- **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE – ORIGINATED 1944 INNER COVER OF GV**
- **RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION – RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT - WRITTEN BY ANOTHER GRAPEVINE EDITOR FOR THE 1965 CONVENTION IN TORONTO, IT WENT ON TO BECOME A STAPLE EXPRESSION OF AA PURPOSE.**
- **GRAPEVINE DAILY QUOTE**
- **GRAPEVINE & LA VINA – ENGLISH AND SPANISH VERSIONS**
- **WEB ACCESS – EPUB, YOUTUBE – ACCESS AT WWW.AAGRAPEVINE.ORG**

What is Grapevine



12 Ways Grapevine Helps with our daily Twelfth Step work

- 1. AA PREAMBLE** Used for meetings all over the world, it was written by an editor of Grapevine and first appeared in the June 1947 issue.
- 2. THE SERENITY PRAYER** Began appearing in early Grapevines as it moved into general AA use.
- 3. THE RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION** Written by another Grapevine editor for the 1965 convention in Toronto, it went on to become a staple expression of AA purpose.
- 4. FIVE SLOGANS** Used by AA meetings everywhere, they first appeared in their well-known graphic form in five issues of Grapevine in 1956 and 1957.
- 5. THE TWELVE TRADITIONS** In the early 1950s, our co-founder Bill W. hammered out our Twelve Traditions in the pages of Grapevine.
- 6. A PLACE TO TELL YOUR STORY** Send us your story! Take a look at the magazine to get some ideas. It's easy! Go to www.aagrapevine.org/share. We want to hear from you!
- 7. A SOURCE OF AA HISTORY** For decades, Grapevine has published a variety of articles which reflect the early history of AA, including the writings of our cofounder Bill W. for Grapevine which can be found in their entirety in *The Language of the Heart*. Our Story Archive holds hundreds of articles by our earliest members back to 1944.
- 8. A LINK WITH THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE** If your group, district, area or country needs help or wants to know how groups operate, there are others who may have found solutions and have shared their experience in Grapevine. See how others do it!
- 9. A MONTHLY 12TH STEP TOOL** Does your group bring meetings into jails and institutions? Grapevines that reach members behind walls are greatly appreciated. You can also bring a magazine to professionals (lawyers, doctors, judges, etc) to help them better understand our program.
- 10. A PLACE TO SHARE YOUR OPINION** Do you have an idea you would like to share? Is there something you would like to get off your chest? Grapevine offers you a "podium" to communicate your thoughts to a wide audience within AA.
- 11. IT'S OUR MEETING IN PRINT** Grapevine is an ideal solution for those on the road or in the air or who cannot attend regular meetings. The magazine can be read like a meeting, starting with the Preamble, then reading the different stories and ending with the Serenity Prayer. There's even a monthly discussion question!
- 12. A PERFECT GIFT** Give Grapevine to a newcomer, a friend or a fellow in AA. A subscription to Grapevine, whether it be for a year or two, is a great way to get to know AA better. It is also a great sober anniversary gift!

In 1986, The General Service Conference recognized AA Grapevine as the International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous

Visit us at: aagrapevine.org

GRAPEVINE DAILY QUOTE

- **NOVEMBER 28, 2020 - “WE WHO HAVE BEEN HELPED BY AA ARE AS LETTERS OF GOD ADDRESSED TO OUR FRIENDS AND FELLOW MEN. BY OUR ATTITUDES, OUR SPEECH AND OUR BEHAVIOR ARE WE TO SHOW THEM THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF AA'S PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE.”**
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA, JANUARY 1950, “BY OUR ATTITUDES,”, EMOTIONAL SOBRIETY II
- **QUOTE OF THE DAY – QUOTES DRAWN FROM GRAPEVINE STORIES FROM 1944, WWW.AAGRAPEVINE.ORG**
SCROLL TO BOTTOM OF PAGE AND CLICK LINK TO SIGN UP

HOW TO ACCESS GRAPEVINE

- **NEW WEB SITE – WWW.AAGRAPEVINE.ORG**
- **MOBILE FRIENDLY – IOS & ANDROID**
- **AUDIO VERSIONS**
- **YOUTUBE**
- **IF WALLS COULD TALK – SUBMITTING PHOTOS OF YOUR HOME GROUP ROOMS**
- **AA NEWS- AA GV & AAWS PRINT CURRENT ARTICLES 3 TIMES A YEAR**
- **2021 TOPICS**

GV – COVER ROOMS JOKES

AA Preamble

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. AA is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

©AA Grapevine, Inc.

RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION

I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that, I am responsible.

THE AA GRAPEVINE STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

AA Grapevine is the international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous in print, digital and audio. Written, edited, illustrated, and read by AA members and others interested in the A.A. program of recovery from alcoholism, Grapevine is a lifeline linking one alcoholic to another.

Often referred to as our "meeting in print," A.A. Grapevine communicates the experience, strength, and hope of its contributors and reflects a broad geographic spectrum of current A.A. experience with recovery, unity, and service. Founded in 1944, Grapevine does not receive group contributions, but is supported entirely through magazine and web subscription sales and additional income derived from the sale of related items.

The awareness that every A.A. member has an individual way of working the program permeates the pages of Grapevine, and throughout its history the magazine has been a forum for the varied and often divergent opinions of A.A.s around the world. As such, articles are not intended to be statements of A.A. policy, nor does publication of any article imply endorsement by either A.A. or Grapevine.

As Bill W. expressed it in 1946, "The Grapevine will be the voice of the Alcoholics Anonymous movement. Its editors and staff will be primarily accountable to the A.A. movement as a whole.... Within the bounds of friendliness and good taste, Grapevine will enjoy perfect freedom of speech on all matters directly pertaining to Alcoholics Anonymous.... Like the Alcoholics Anonymous movement it is to mirror, there will be but one central purpose: The Grapevine will try to carry the A.A. message to alcoholics and practice the A.A. principles in all its affairs."

Copyright © by AA Grapevine, Inc.; Revised: December 2013

Conference Advisory Action, 1986: "Since each issue of the Grapevine cannot go through the Conference-approval process, the Conference recognizes the AA Grapevine as the international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous."

NEED HELP WITH A DRINKING PROBLEM?

If you want to stop drinking and need to find AA near you or wish to learn more about Alcoholics Anonymous, visit: www.aa.org

At Wit's End

Spaced out

Two well-known "astro-wits" were holding forth at the local watering hole about their upcoming space trips.

"I'm going to land on Mars," boasted the first one.

"Well, I'm going to land on the sun," bragged the second "astronaut."

"You can't do that," said the first guy. "You'll burn up."

"Do you think I'm an idiot?" responded the second one. "I'm going to land at night."

PAUL C. Oceanside, Calif.

Billy's blues

One day Billy was drunk and got in a bar fight, which involved the cops.

The next day Billy went to a revival and the preacher asked anyone with needs to come forward and be prayed over. So he got in line. When it was Billy's turn the preacher said, "Billy, what you want me to pray about?" Billy said, "Preacher, I need you to pray for my hearing."

So the preacher put one finger in Billy's ear and the other hand on top of his head and prayed a while. After a few minutes, he removed his hands and said "Billy, how's your hearing now?"

"I don't know preacher," said Billy. "It's not until next Wednesday in Phoenix."

BOB M. Green Valley, Ariz.

Knock, knock ...

Who's there?

Alcoholics Anonymous.

Alcoholics Anonymous who?

I can't tell you.

STEELINA K. Vancouver, British Columbia

GOT ANY JOKES?

We need your jokes about drinks, alcohol, bars, sponsors, and sobriety. Send any good ones! Send them to us at aa@grapevine.org/share.

GRAPEVINE CAPTION CONTEST

Below is the winner of last month's caption contest. Visit our website at www.aagrapevine.org to see previous winners or to submit a caption!

PAUL C. Oceanside, Calif.

It's a tag meeting at the On the Edge group, your turn to share Bob.
-KROON, Tucson, Ariz.

www.aagrapevine.org

White Lake Group, Whitehall, Mich.

Early Start, San Francisco, Calif.

Westboro Forge Group, Westborough, Mass.

A Vision For You, Silvana, Wash.

As Bill Sees It, Media, Pa.

Share your art

Upload digital images at: www.aagrapevine.org/share

Please note that all digital files uploaded must be high resolution (300 dpi).

Or mail to:

Grapevine
475 Riverside Drive
New York, NY 10115.

Remember: Include your name, address, group name and location of the meeting.

www.aagrapevine.org

2021 EDITORIAL



GRAPEVINE EDITORIAL CALENDAR 2021

- JAN** **Oldtimers** (stories due July 15, 2020)
Let's hear from our long-time members! What was AA like when you came in? What have you learned over the years? What have been your greatest challenges and joys? Share your stories.
- FEB** **Sponsorship** (stories due Aug 15, 2020)
Share your experiences of sponsoring others (or of being sponsored). What are some of the things you learned? What things do you now pass on? Share your story.
- MARCH** **Making Amends** (stories due Sept. 15, 2020)
Did you have a particularly interesting or difficult Ninth Step experiences? How did it go? Any surprises? How did your sponsor help you? How did it change you? Share your story.
- APRIL** **Fun in Sobriety** (stories due Oct. 15, 2020)
We're not a glum lot. Been on any fun sober trips? How about camping, skiing, skydiving, dancing, collecting, reading, cooking, volunteering? What about service events, new hobbies, game nights, sober vacations? Share your sober adventures! Let's hear from you!
- MAY** **How the Steps Changed My Life** (stories due Nov. 15, 2020)
Pick a Step and share your experiences with it. Four? Five? Eight? Eleven? Tell us how that Step changed you and enriched your life. Give examples. Share your stories.
- JUNE** **Dating & Relationships** (stories due Dec. 15, 2020)
Share your experiences learning to date in sobriety. How did it go? What were your challenges? Any tips? Share what you've learned about having sober relationships. How have you changed?
- JULY** **Prison Issue** (stories due Jan. 15, 2021)
Stories by members about how AA brings hope into prisons and jails. Stories by prisoners and by those who bring AA meetings to them. Involved in correspondence service or prison sponsorship? We would love to hear your stories.
- AUG** **Sober Seniors** (stories due Feb 15, 2021)
What are some challenges you have getting older in AA? Are you in assisted living? How do you get to AA meetings? How do you stay connected to the Fellowship? Did you get sober later in life? Do you do service reaching out to senior members? Share your experiences.
- SEPT** **Young & Sober** (stories due March 15, 2021)
Did you come into AA at an early age? What was that like? We're looking for stories by people who got sober in their teens, 20s and 30s. Do you go to Young People's AA meetings and Conferences? How have they helped you? Share your experience!
- OCT** **Cooperation With Professionals (CPC)** (stories due April 15, 2021)
Have you participated in CPC service (providing doctors, therapists, clergy, lawyers, parole officers and other professionals information about AA)? Share your experiences. Did a professional help you find your way to AA because of CPC service work?
- NOV** **Classic Grapevine**
Our favorite stories from the AA Grapevine Story Archive.
- DEC** **Remote Communities Experiences (& Staying Sober through the Holidays!)** (stories due June 15, 2021)
Do you live far from AA meetings? Are you a loner? Stationed far away? Do you have a language or cultural barrier? Are you homebound? Is it difficult to find AA meetings where you live? Tell us how you stay sober. Are you involved in Remote Community service? Share your experiences.

Also, December is a great time of year to reach out to alcoholics and help others. What are the ways you stay sane and grateful during the holidays and New Year's? How do you navigate holiday parties and family gatherings? Share your best sober holiday stories!

HOW TO UPLOAD & SUBMIT TO GV

- **STORIES**
- **ARTWORK**
- **JOKES**
- **PHOTOS**
- **WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND**
- **TRADITION STORIES**
- **GUEST SPEAKER – GORDON R - AA EXTRA STRENGTH, LONG-LASTING**
- **GUEST SPEAKER - CHERYL B –**
- **10MIN , WHAT INSPIRED THEM, FORMAT/THEME, WHAT MONTH PUBLISHED, READ SUBMISSION, HOW DID YOU SUBMIT .**

Guidelines For Contributing to Grapevine

Share your story, jokes, photos and art

AA members around the world have been submitting their personal stories, their experience, strength and hope, their ups, downs and in-betweens to Grapevine since 1944. Why not join them? You don't need to have had prior publishing experience. All you need is a little willingness and the desire to share. Here are some suggestions to help you. Grapevine is published both as a monthly, print magazine and frequently updated website.

Read the [Editorial Policy](#) here.

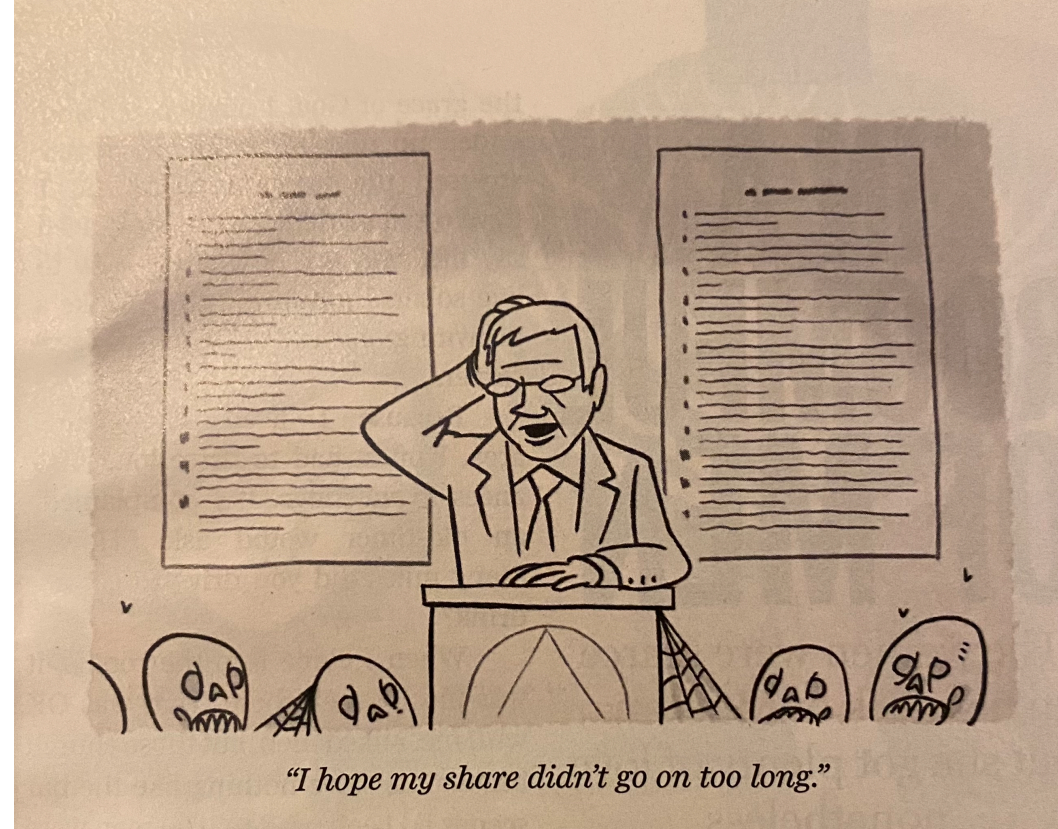
Here are suggestions and tips for submitting your art, photos and writing:

WRITING ARTICLES

Before writing, you might want to leaf through a few issues to see what kinds of articles are published. Most are first-person accounts of the writer's experience with alcoholism and AA. Grapevine publishes stories for special departments such as Emotional Sobriety, Sponsorship, Newcomers, What's On Your Mind?, Young & Sober, Old-Timers, Spiritual Awakenings, Service and Home Group, as well as articles about each Step and Tradition, jokes for "At Wit's End" and letters for "Dear Grapevine." But you are not confined to these topics. The editors are always looking for innovative material, as long as it relates to AA experience and reflects an awareness of AA's singleness of purpose. Articles are reviewed by the editorial staff and selected by consensus.

WHAT GRAPEVINE DOES NOT PUBLISH

Poems, prayers, song lyrics, tributes to individuals, plays, previously published material or anything unrelated to AA or that violates the principles of AA.



HOW TO SUBMIT

GV - CARRY THE MESSAGE PROJECT

Donate

Donate a subscription



Gift

Gift Sign up for the newcomer



Gift

Gift gv for the holidays

EPUB ON GV MOBILE

- **DOWNLOADS**
- **LISTEN TO STORIES**
- **AUDIO BOOKS & CD'S**
- **EBOOKS – SPANISH & FRENCH**



THE BEST OF BILL

Reflections on Faith, Fear, Honesty,
Humility, and Love

Plus Bill's Classic Essay on Anonymity

DEMONSTRATION

- **WEB ACCESS – GVQTD SIGN UP, AUDIO STORIES, LITERATURE, POST CARDS**
- **SUBMISSION PROCESS**
- **MAGAZINE**
- **ARCHIVES**
- **GET INVOLVED**
- **STORE**
- **SUBSCRIBE -**

I am responsible...

When anyone, anywhere,
reaches out for help, I want
the hand of A.A. always to be there.
And for that: I am responsible.

CONCLUSION

QUESTION & ANSWERS